King County	Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention All Divisions General Policy Manual	
	Chapter 4 **Security & Use of Force**	
4.03.011 - Force Review Committee	Approved By:	Director Allen Nance
	Effective Date:	July 31, 2025
	Reviewed By:	PRC
Distribution:	Review Date:	July 15, 2025

Purpose
To establish and provide guidelines for reviewing uses of force and recommending changes to policy, procedure, or training as warranted.

Policy
It is the policy of this department to establish a Force Review Committee to review whether force is used, reported, and managed in accordance with laws and departmental policies and procedures.

References

RCW:	41.56
Department policies:	1.07.004 - General Training Standards
	4.03.003 - Electronic Stun Shield
	4.03.006 - Pepper Spray
	4.03.007 - Restraint Board
	4.03.008 - Restraint Chair
	4.03.009 - Restraints
	4.03.014 - Use of Force
	4.03.018 - Taser
Juvenile Division:	J-CepP-9.001 Code Response
	J-CepP-9.002 Use of Force
	J-YMO-13.003 Rights of Youths
Department form:	Supervisor's Incident Report (F-523)
Other:	Settlement Agreement with the United States Department of Justice
	Garrity v N.J., 385 U.S. 493 (1967)

Definitions
Preliminary investigation: An on-shift investigation into a use of force to gather additional information to determine if there is need for a formal investigation or other management action.

A. General Guidelines
1. The Force Review Committee (FRC) shall meet monthly or at the discretion of the Director.

2. Required reviews: The FRC shall conduct an administrative review of all use of force involving:
   a. Serious or unexplained injuries
   b. Hard impact head strikes
   c. Use of force involving apparent violation of the Use of Force policies.
   d. Canine bites
   e. In the Juvenile Division, any use of force that escalates to a physical strike of detained youth by detention staff
3. Random reviews: The FRC shall also conduct random reviews into all other uses of force that are not covered by Section 2 above to determine whether force is being used and reported in accordance with policy. This shall include confirming use of force reports are being appropriately referred for preliminary investigations when warranted. The Commanders/Chief of Operations/Security (or designee) shall be responsible for selecting the random reviews to be conducted by the FRC but shall include:
   a. Supervisor Incident Reports and all accompanying documentation.
   b. Resident/detained youth grievances that alleged improper use of force.
   c. Outside complaints involving uses of force (i.e., family members, representatives of outside organizations, or the Ombud's Office).
4. Reviews conducted by the FRC shall include, at a minimum, assessing the decision by every involved staff member to use force, and the amount and type of force used by every involved staff member.
5. The FRC shall recommend changes to departmental policies, procedures, equipment, and training, when deemed appropriate, as a result of their findings of their case reviews.
6. The FRC shall not investigate or recommend discipline or Letters of Corrective Counseling for employees. This process shall be managed via the Chain of Command and/or the internal investigations process.
7. If the FRC believes an incident may involve a violation of department policies, it shall be referred to the Chain of Command or Internal Investigations Unit (IIU). If the FRC believes an incident may involve a violation of the criminal law, it shall be referred to the appropriate law enforcement agency for investigation. The FRC shall suspend review of any cases referred to IIU or law enforcement until all investigations are complete and only cases that are not sustained will be reviewed by the FRC. However, for any referred case, the FRC may recommend informal coaching, counseling, or additional training for employees in order to improve performance.
8. The FRC shall consult with representatives of the training section, IIU, and Jail Health Services, as necessary, to review uses of force and implement the FRC recommendations.
9. The FRC shall be composed of members who were not involved in the incident under review.
10. The FRC shall be composed of the following standing members:
    a. Adult Division:
       1) The Deputy Director (Chair) or designee
       2) The Kent Division Commander or their designee
       3) The Seattle Division Commander or their designee
    b. Juvenile Division:

1) The Division Director (Chair) or designee
2) The Deputy Division Director or designee
3) Chief of Operations/Security or designee
4) Program Manager or designee

11. All standing FRC members must be present before the FRC can review any use of force.
12. The Director or Deputy Director may choose additional members.
13. A Defensive Tactics Instructor shall be invited to attend each FRC meeting as a consultant for analysis of use of force application(s) and tactics.

B. Commanders/ Chief of Operations/Security Responsibilities

1. The Commanders / Chief of Operations/Security (or their designees) shall collect the reports from the preceding month for the use of force review.
2. The Commanders /Chief of Operations/Security (or their designees) shall forward these reports and any photographs, videos, or other pertinent information to the FRC members at least seven days in advance of the review.

C. The Chair's Responsibilities

1. The FRC Chair shall submit a written report of the FRC's findings and recommendations to the Director within five working days of the conclusion of the FRC.
2. If the FRC or the Director determines additional action is required, the FRC Chair shall ensure such action is completed.

D. Director's Responsibilities

1. The Director shall review the recommendations of the FRC within ten working days of the submittal of the FRC report.
2. If the Director concurs with the FRC and no additional action is required, the FRC report shall be maintained by the Director's office.
3. If the FRC and the Director concur that policy changes are needed, the FRC report shall be returned to the FRC Chair for implementation of the recommended action.
4. If the Director does not concur with the recommendation of the FRC, the Director may instruct the FRC Chair to take alternative action.